as Government of India. The System will have 80 terminals (SIEMENS) with provision to connect anothe$_r$ 72 iriaigenousljy available terminals or IBM compatible PCs. This provides a larg$_e$ on-line ime sharing computing environment for IIT Madras. A good CAD station for engineering work is also included i$_n$ the proposed configuration. Th$_e$ power of the CPU and the online Desk Storage is comparable to th$_e$ systems available in oher IITs.

Controversial historical facts in N.C.E.R.T. book for Class XI

1695. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE. SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for not mentioning of 'Chola Kings' cultural contacts with South East Asia and Sri Lanka in chapter 24 of "Ancient India" $_a$ text book for Class XI pub lished by NCERT; and

(b) what are the specific reasons for repeated references of th$_e$ in fluence of Sanskrit i$_n$ Far-East Asia whil$_e$ no mention has been made of Tamil linguistic and literary in fluences i$_n$ these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Th$_e$ most signifi-rant period of Cholas' cultural influence is from 10th to 12th cen. turifs. The textbook entitled 'Ancient India' deals with the period only up to 8th century.

(b) The reference to the influence of Sanskrit i$_n$ Far-East Asia has occurred thrice. The first reference says that Kamboja wa$_s$ developed as a centre of Sanskrit learning and numerous inscriptions were composed in that language. The second reference is that Sanskrit was the official language of the Champa Kingdom. Th$_e$ third reference is that the Indonesian language contains numerous Sanskrit words.

The period when the influence of Tamil Language and literatur$_e$ on South-East Asia became significant is not covered in the textbook "Ancient India", as such this has not been mentioned.

Controversial reference in N.C.E.R.T. book for Class Xl

1696. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pelas. ed to state;

(a) whether the reference to "Madurai" is the Tamil word for "Mathura" found at page 122 li$_{ne}$ 9 of "Ancient India" a text book for j Xi standard published by NCERT is based on historical evidences;

(b) if so, what are those evidences; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the reference being allowed to be mentioned in this book?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI); (a) and (b) Th$_e$ reference in the textbook to Madurai as the Tamil word for Mathura is based on linguistic evidence. **The** great ancient Tamil Poete$_{Ss}$ Andel in her collection of songs called "Thiruppavai" refers to Mathura as Northern Madurai.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement of ethnic significance in **N.O.E.R.T. book for Class XI**

1697. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether th$_e$ statement to the